



He was one of the many great Indian fighters of his time: lived years with his rifle and tomahawk next to his hand: lost brothers and sons under the scalping knife. He was a master of woodcraft, able to find his way hundreds of miles through unbroken forests, able to maintain himself alone not merely for a day or a week but for a year or more without other resources than his rifle, his tomahawk, and his knife; and this in the face of his most wily of foes.

He was muscular and strong and enduring; victor in many a hand-to-hand combat, conquerer of farms cut from the forest; performer of long journeys afoot at speed that would seem incredible to a college athlete. He was a dead shot with the rifle, an expert hunter of game.

He was trustworthy, so that when wilderness missions of great responsibility were undertaken, he was almost invariably the one called. He was loyal to the last drop of his blood. He was ready ever to help others. These are simple, fundamental qualities, but they are never anywhere too common; they are rarely anywhere combined in one man: and in these rough times of primitive men they sufficed, when added to his wilderness skill and determination, to make him the leading and most romantic figure.

*—Daniel Boone: Wilderness Scout
Stewart Edward White, 1930*

*The Saga
Of A Man and A House*

By Glen Goellner

●

Issued Under Auspices Of
DANIEL BOONE SHRINE ASSOCIATION, INC.

●

Limited First Edition

●

AVAILABLE FROM
Daniel Boone Shrine Association, Inc.
A. RAY OLIVER, TREASURER
127 N. FIFTH STREET, ST. CHARLES, MO.
FOR DONATIONS OF \$1.00, UPWARD

● **Dedication** ●

THE PLEASANT TASK OF COMPILING
THIS MODEST TRIBUTE TO A GREAT
AMERICAN IS DEDICATED TO
THE SUCCESS OF THE MOVEMENT
TO ESTABLISH FOR POSTERITY
A SHRINE WORTHY TO BEAR
THE NAME OF DANIEL BOONE.

This Is The Saga Of A Man And A House

The man is Daniel Boone, whose name and deeds are immortal. The house is the place where Boone died. It also is indestructible.

The two have much in common, as this booklet will endeavor to show.

Boone "passed off gently, after a short illness, almost without pain or suffering," in a little room near the front door of the house near Defiance, Missouri, on Sept. 26, 1820.

Daniel Boone was an old man then, within a month of his 86th birthday. The house was comparatively new, having been completed only a decade earlier.

Today the house is old, too. Indeed, it is ancient by ordinary standards of the lifetime of a house. But this is no ordinary house. Despite its age, it stands majestically on its Femme Osage valley hillside, tangible testimony of a vital period of the past and a living reminder of a man who was a giant among men on the American frontier.

The history of the house coincides with the arrival of Daniel Boone in Missouri in 1799. His arrival with 50 families from Kentucky to accept an appointment as syndic from the Spanish government heralded a new era in the uncivilized Missouri territory. Settlement flourished under Boone's guiding hand, as it had in Kentucky after he traveled down the Warriors' Path and blazed the Wilderness road many years before.

Legend has it that the Valley of the Femme Osage and the little creek that winds among its rolling hills were named by Daniel Boone. As the story goes, a party of Osage Indians had turned out to greet the newcomers at the confluence of the creek and the Missouri river and an Indian woman was drowned in the swollen waters, leading Boone to exclaim, "Femme Osage." Thereafter the creek and the valley were known by that name.

In any case, this peaceful valley was destined to be the last home of the fearless Indian fighter, scout, trapper, surveyor and trailblazer. In later years he made at least two trips back to "Kaintuck" and it is believed he ventured west all the way to the Yellowstone. But the trail always led back to the Valley of the Femme Osage and the house from which he departed on his final long journey.

The lure of land, great sections of it, had brought Boone's grandfather, George Boone the elder, from his weaver's bench in Devon, England, to the new world in 1717. Young Dan'l, born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, Oct. 22, 1734, son of Squire Boone and Sarah Morgan, inherited his ancestor's love of land. That craving, plus the adventuresome Norman blood in his veins, led Boone to become the "symbol of the American frontier."

It was that heritage that accounted for Boone's presence at the age of 19 in the force of British regulars that General Braddock led against the invading French from Canada, the youngest man among them and with no peer in the whole army as a marksman. He was one of only two men who escaped with their lives when the army fell into an Indian ambush. That escape from the Indians was one of many that Boone would manage with uncanny skill almost to the day of his death.

"When the sun sank behind the Cumberland Mountains, it sank into mystery" for Daniel Boone. Beyond the mountains lay the wilderness, fabulous hunting—and land. It took Boone out of the Yadkin Valley of North Carolina, shortly after his marriage on Aug. 14, 1756 to tall and comely Rebecca Bryan, to Virginia, Kentucky, and then Missouri. "His lady," whom he had married when she was 17, followed him over the lonely trails and bore his children along the route. They consoled each other when two of their sons died under the Indians' tomahawk, and Rebecca kept the home fires burning when the urge for "elbow room" pushed Boone farther and farther into the unsettled reaches, armed only with his long rifle and and an unerring sense of direction.

A new epoch opened for the vast Missouri territory with the advent of Boone and his party of Kentuckians in the fall of 1799. Now 65 years old, Boone's name was known throughout the frontier. But he was sore at heart as he bade goodbye to the "Happy Hunting Ground," having lost title through legal technicalities to all of his land. Great crowds of settlers gathered to see him off when he embarked in a dugout on the Ohio river for the trip to Missouri. Women and children in the party made the journey overland.

Once underway, Boone's spirits rose. Ahead lay new country to explore and new land to settle. Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant-governor of the Spanish-held Missouri country, had promised that Boone would be "treated handsomely" with a huge grant of land. The two parties met in St. Louis in October and Boone was accorded a military welcome in keeping with his rank of lieutenant-colonel. Then he set off on horseback, with his rifle and hunting dogs, leading the group to the Femme Osage, some 60 miles upstream on the Missouri river.

One of Boone's first tasks after his arrival was to survey 1000 arpents of land for himself. He chose a site composed mostly of bottomland along the Missouri near what is now the town of Matson. Most of the acreage has long since been swept away by the changing course of the river. Adjoining it on the bluffs was a tract that had been granted to his son, Daniel Morgan Boone.

One problem remained. To secure land for another son, Nathan. This was an important problem at that time because Nathan, only 20 years old, had a bride, Olive Van Bibber, described as "the prettiest girl north of the Ohio river." The transaction to obtain the land for Nathan is also important now, because the property that was acquired is the site of the old Boone house near Defiance.

Daniel Boone not only wanted land for himself, he wanted his family to have land. Nathan traded his last horse, along with the saddle and bridle, to Robert Hall, for a 400-arpent Spanish grant in the Femme Osage Valley, near the Daniel Boone and Daniel Morgan Boone tracts. Daniel himself paid Hall's taxes and the deal was completed January 20, 1800.

Although two of Boone's daughters were married and remained behind in Kentucky, most of the Boone clan soon were together in St. Charles County. The new arrivals included Boone's daughter, Jemima, and her husband, Flanders Callaway, and the Jonathan Bryans, relatives of Rebecca Boone. They settled just west of the Boones at Marthasville.

On July 11, 1800, Boone was named syndic of the Femme Osage district by the new Spanish lieutenant-governor, Carlos D. Delassus. This gave him complete administrative charge of both civil and military matters in the whole area. Already a man of enormous prestige, his new rank added to his stature and settlers began to flock to his district. He served as judge and jury of disputes of white men and the Indians, holding court outdoors in fair weather under the Judgment Tree and using truth as a guide in his decisions, rather than man-made laws. The Spanish government awarded him an additional 10,000 arpents of land, which he was to lose later because of faulty titles, just as had happened at Kentucky.

Following the Louisiana Purchase, Boone continued as an unofficial Judge, being called upon frequently to serve as magistrate in civil matters. He sold the 1,000 arpents of land that he was finally granted and paid his debts and settled down to a life of trapping and exploring. His big canoe, loaded with beaver pelts, became a familiar sight to the growing number of farmers as he came down the Missouri every spring on his way to market, "because fur traders at St. Charles gave bad prices."

It was in this period that the big stone house was built on Nathan Boone's tract in the Femme Osage valley. Near at hand was a running spring and in the yard was the gigantic elm tree, where Boone held court. The house, of Georgian architecture, resembled Boone's birthplace in Pennsylvania and ancestral Boone residences back in Devon. The elm tree, 16½ feet in girth was similar to another large elm under which the first Kentucky Legislature, of which Daniel Boone was a member, met at Boonesborough.

The old frontiersman, a handyman at most every undertaking, served as supervising contractor for the building of the house. He carved the seven walnut mantelpieces and directed the laying of the 2½-foot-thick walls built of blue limestone quarried at the farm. Portholes beside the door were provided as rifle space in event of Indian attack.

Except for the "half-faced" camps that he constructed for temporary quarters, Daniel and Rebecca had no home in Missouri, living with their children. It was his failure to build on his own land that led to its loss on legal grounds. He and Rebecca lived in Nathan's stone house much of the time before she died at the home of Jemima, Boone's favorite daughter, on March 18, 1813.

Rebecca was buried on a knoll on Teuque Creek near Marthasville. The cemetery on David Bryan's property overlooked the Missouri river, where Boone had first set foot on Missouri soil. Life thereafter was lonely for the man who loved the loneliness of the wilderness. His three prize possessions were a good rifle, a good horse and a good wife. He was nearly 80 and the rifle and horse weren't of much use. Now the faithful companion he had brought west when she was hardly more than a girl was gone. Boone asked that he be buried at her side when the time came.

Except for occasional hunting trips with his colored boy, Boone's last years were tranquil. He spent spare hours carving powder-horns as gifts for his grandchildren and occasional visitors. Civilization caught up with and was passing him by as he lived out his life in the remote Femme Osage. Settlers pushed westward over the Boonslick trail, last route through the wilderness to be blazed by Daniel Boone, and thence to the Santa Fe trail. Indian troubles were almost at an end and Missouri was on the eve of statehood. Boone built a coffin and kept it under his bed, lying in it occasionally to see if it fit.

One of his last visitors was Chester Harding, a wandering artist sent from St. Louis by admirers to paint his portrait. Even in those days Boone's house was hard to find. The nearer he got to the place, the less people knew about Boone, the artist related afterwards. When within two miles of the house, he asked a farmer for directions and was told that he didn't know Boone. The farmer's wife spoke up and informed Harding that "he is the white-headed old man who lives on the bottom, near the river."

Boone became ill while visiting at the Flanders Callaway home but his condition improved and he mounted his horse, Old Roan, for a trip to Nathan's. There he was stricken again after a helping of his favorite delicacy, sweet potatoes. Death strode across the threshold of the old stone house three nights later and the valiant frontiersman offered no fight this time. His body was gently lowered into the earth with his Rebecca, and a historian wrote, prophetically:

FRESH HILLOCKS IN THE CEMETERY WILL SOON BE ALL THE MARKS THAT WILL BE LEFT OF A RACE OF GIANTS WHO GRAPPLED NATURE IN HER FASTNESS AND MADE A TRIUMPHANT CONQUEST IN THE FACE OF THE GREATEST PRIVATIONS, DISEASE AND DIFFICULTIES. THE SHADOWS THAT FELL UPON THEIR TOMBS AS TIME RECEDED ARE LIKE THE SMOKY HAZE THAT ENVELOPED THE PRAIRIES IN THE EARLY DAYS, SADDENING THE MEMORY AND GIVING TO DIM DISTANCE ONLY A FAINT AND PHANTOM OUTLINE, TO WHICH THE FUTURE WILL OFTEN LOOK BACK AND WONDER AT THE GREAT HEARTS THAT LIE HIDDEN UNDER THE PEACEFUL CANOPY.

A New Period In The Saga

Thus began a new period in the saga, a period in which frontier days would become only a memory, something to be read about in books or to be handed down from generation to generation by countryfolk. Boone's fame, which had sparked the westward movement, was destined to continue to grow at an accelerated pace. But the curious indifference that had been accorded him in his lifetime was to plague him beyond the grave; even his weary old body and the house that sheltered him could not escape that fate.

Governments had bid against each with offers of land to Boone to entice him to their territory, knowing the settlers would follow him. The same governments had remained mute when one word would have assured him his promised reward. Now that he was gone, the government of his adopted state declined to appropriate funds for a suitable monument at his grave.

Sixteen years passed before even a simple headstone was erected at Boone's grave on Teuque creek. David Bryan, a relative, hired a St. Charles blacksmith, to do the job. Bryan was ill the day the blacksmith arrived and he sent his little daughter, Susie, to the cemetery to point out the grave. She indicated a spot at the side of the grave of Rebecca and there the marker was placed. But not for long.

Twelve years later Kentucky became righteous and sent a delegation to Missouri for the bodies of Daniel and Rebecca. Neighbors protested but the Kentuckians were persuasive and finally obtained reluctant consent to open the graves. Rebecca's coffin was intact but Daniel's, though he was buried seven years later, was disintegrated. Missouri descendants of Boone use that circumstance to support their contention that Boone's body was missed that day and still lies sleeping in the Femme Osage.

The belief is embellished by the files of old newspapers, which recount that Susie Bryan should have pointed to the foot of Rebecca's grave, instead of to its side, when she indicated where the marker for Daniel's grave should be placed.

The story was that when the original grave for Daniel Boone was dug at the side of Rebecca, the skeleton of a stranger was unearthed. The grave was refilled and, because the ground on the opposite side of her grave was unsuitable for sepulchral purposes, owing to the hillside, a new site was chosen at the foot of Rebecca's grave.

The version was confirmed by Alonzo Callaway, a former slave, the newspapers relate. He was one of those who assisted at the disinterment and is credited with having concealed from the Kentuckians the true location of the grave, allowing them to dig up the skeleton of the stranger at her side. On his deathbed with consumption, Alonzo "became quite enthused" during an interview and rose on his elbow to relate, "They didn't get Boone."

Be that it may, Kentucky's ardor soon died after the pomp and ceremonial that accompanied the reburial of the two bodies at Frankfort. Forty years were allowed to go by before a worthy monument was erected at the new graves.

Neglect also followed in the wake of the removal of the bodies from Missouri. The graves remained open as the Kentucky delegation had left them and the headstones lay where they had been tossed, until they were removed some years later to a museum in Fayette, Mo.

Nathan Boone had gone off to the Blackhawk War in 1832 and upon his return in 1837 sold the Boone house and land to Charles M. Johnson on January 24 for a consideration of \$6,120. He left with his wife Olive for southwest Missouri.

Now the Boone relics were at their lowest ebb. The bodies supposedly removed to another state, the old stone house occupied by strangers, and two unfilled graves on a remote Missouri hillside. But the spirit of "Sheltowee", the name given to Boone when he was captured and adopted by the Shawnee Indians, still lived.

It lived in the breast of every red-blooded American boy, infused there at birth, before and since Boone's time. It kept the new country going in war and strife, led her to become the greatest nation on earth. It kept alive, also, the memory of the old pioneer. Boone was still the people's hero, as he had been when they gathered to see him off when he left for Missouri, and when they flocked to his funeral in 1820, making it necessary to hold the services in a barn at the Flanders Callaway farm.

Yet another crowd was scheduled to gather to honor Daniel Boone. On a day in 1915 nearly 100 years after his death, the people assembled 2,000 strong at the forlorn cemetery near Marthasville to dedicate a monument paid for by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the citizens of Warren county. They traveled over rocky roads in early-day automobiles and when the dedicatory address was completed there was a "great cheer from the multitude, ringing out over the Warren county hills."

The principal speaker called upon those present to "combine your energies and demand from the Legislature an appropriation of \$10,000 with which to erect a monument on Missouri soil equal if not superior in style, beauty and design to that which the Southern State has already erected to the Boones."

The speaker's eloquence was to no avail. Nothing was appropriated to build a monument. The old stone house was serving as living quarters for a long list of owners, some of whom were unaware of its history. Numerous organizations were formed in an effort to acquire the house, all ending in failure. That was the situation in 1925, when Col. Francis Marion Curlee came on the scene.

Col. Curlee was a descendant of Daniel Boone's brother. His mother, Mary Boone, was a daughter of Col. Francis Marion Boone who was killed at the Battle of the Wilderness. A St. Louis businessman, Col. Curlee purchased the house and three acres of land for \$20,000. He issued a statement that he planned to restore the house and use it as a residence.

The colonel fulfilled his promise. In the next two decades, truck loads of black walnut were hauled to the site and the interior was rehabilitated under the direction of architect Beverly Nelson. The Judgment Tree was rejuvenated and an expert was dispatched to honeycomb the country for furnishings of the period. Bits of adjacent land were gradually acquired until there were 509 acres in the estate. The total cost was estimated at more than a quarter-million dollars.

With the house faithfully restored and elegantly furnished, Col. Curlee became ill. A "for sale" sign was hung out and interest in obtaining the property for public enjoyment was renewed. The owner cooperated by declining a number of firm offers from private interests. It appeared that at long last the name and exploits of Daniel Boone would be fittingly honored in the state to which he had contributed so much.

The situation stayed on dead center for two more years until it became evident that official agencies in Missouri did not have the finances to convert the property into a state park. The home was going begging, as had Boone's land claims. Roadways, bridges, regions, scout districts, even taverns throughout the Daniel Boone area of Missouri were named in honor of the pioneer but the one property of most interest to citizens and tourists in every corner of the country remained closed to the public, in danger of being sold under the auctioneer's hammer.

Boone's bones, whether they lay in the adjacent valley, as his descendants believed, or in far off "Kaintuck," must have ached at this repetition of the experiences of the long ago.



Daniel Boone Shrine Assn., Inc.

This booklet is issued by the Daniel Boone Shrine Association as the first step in a program to purchase the old Boone house and 509 acres, for conversion into a memorial to the frontiersman, and for public enjoyment by future generations.

The Daniel Boone Shrine Association was formed June 18, 1956, during a meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Dufaux in University City, Mo. Present besides the host and hostess were Cliff Greve, Herbert Houchin, Mrs. Eugenia James and Olin O. Stansbury of St. Louis, Clarence A. Goellner Jr., Glen Goellner, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Oliver and Mrs. Edna M. Olson of St. Charles.

These 11 persons represented a hard-core of public opinion which held that if governmental agencies would not or could not act effectively to preserve such invaluable remnants of Americana as the handsome Boone house, the people themselves should attempt to accomplish the task.

A total of six meetings were held to work out preliminary details. One session was held in the nostalgic dining room of the Boone house on August 4, 1956. Others were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver in St. Charles. Persons who joined the movement as the meetings progressed included Senator Robert Linneman, Mrs. Louise Murphy, Fred Voelker, A. L. Cannady, Lee I. White, Mrs. F. C. Becker, Mrs. R. C. Jordan, C. Fred Hollenbeck, Russell Emge and Frank B. Merget.

Mr. Dufaux current treasurer and a founder of the successful Boys Town of Missouri project, was elected national chairman of the Daniel Boone Shrine Association. Mrs. James was elected secretary, Mr. Oliver treasurer. Mr. Hollenbeck and Mr. Emge were named co-chairmen of solicitation of funds.

Glen Goellner, assisted by his brother, Clarence, was assigned to edit a booklet to be issued in token of contributions of \$1 and upward. Donors of \$5 and upward would have their names inscribed in a ledger to be on public display in the Boone home. Sums of \$10 and upward would be placed in escrow, to be refunded in event the project was not completed.

The services of an attorney, J. L. Green, were secured to draw up papers of incorporation and it was expected that donations to purchase the property would classify as tax deductible. Banks at St. Charles and St. Louis were chosen as depositories of the funds.

A design of a roadside sign, containing a silhouette of Boone, was submitted and tentatively approved, for erection at intersections leading to the shrine.

A supplementary fund-raising plan was adopted, involving the presentation of window signs to business places showing their cooperation in the project. The committee felt local business throughout the St. Louis area would profit from the influx of tourists to the national shrine and would be pleased to contribute \$25 and upward for the window signs.

Chairman Dufaux made the first public announcement of the project in conjunction with a meeting of the St. Charles County Historical Society on July 26, 1956. Newspapers of the area gave the news a heartening reception, including the St. Charles Comos-Monitor, St. Charles Banner-News, O'Fallon Community News, Wentzville Union, Marthasville Record, St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Andrew Maschmeier, custodian of the Boone house, was a guest at the meeting held in the home on August 4. He described the structure and the properties in detail and told the group that he would observe his 25th anniversary in the employment of Col. Curlee at the house during the approaching November.

The committee went on record as approving dedication of several rooms in the Boone house to the memory of Col. Curlee's mother. The gesture was made in deference to the devotion held by Col. Curlee for his mother, and also as a lasting mark of appreciation to Col. Curlee for his efforts in restoring the historic home to its present excellent and authentic condition.

It was decided to follow the plan of organization that had worked so successfully at Boys Town, namely, an executive board to do the leg-work; a board of directors to sanction or disapprove the plans and ideas of the executive board, and, finally, a board of trustees, consisting of top citizens of highest caliber from St. Charles and St. Louis, who would control both the executive board and the board of directors. The board of trustees would be paid all monies monthly and would make all expenditures, assuring permanency and security for the organization.

Members discussed plans to reconstruct in the valley south of the Boone house an old world village similar to Sturbridge Village near Boston and New Salem Village near Springfield, Ill. Restored cabins and forts of Boone's time, old grist mills, blacksmith shop and other items of historic interest would be placed on the grounds and would thus be saved from destruction by so-called progress, which all too often obliterates its own origins.

Other portions of the acreage would be utilized as gathering places for youth groups, especially for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. No commercialization whatever would be permissible and all financial returns would be exclusively for maintenance and development of the shrine.

Mr. Dufaux reported that, following a conference with Richard F. Moll, attorney for Col. Francis M. Curlee, owner of the Boone property, the association had been given an option on the house and land for a consideration of \$135,000. Purchase of the valuable period furnishings and other personal property was optional at an additional \$40,000.

Members of the association voted to set a goal of \$175,000 to be solicited, in the belief that the furnishings and personal property had a value far in excess of the asking price. Too, purchase of the complete property, including furnishings, would permit immediate opening of the shrine to the public after its purchase, whereas the necessity of acquiring new furnishings would delay the opening.

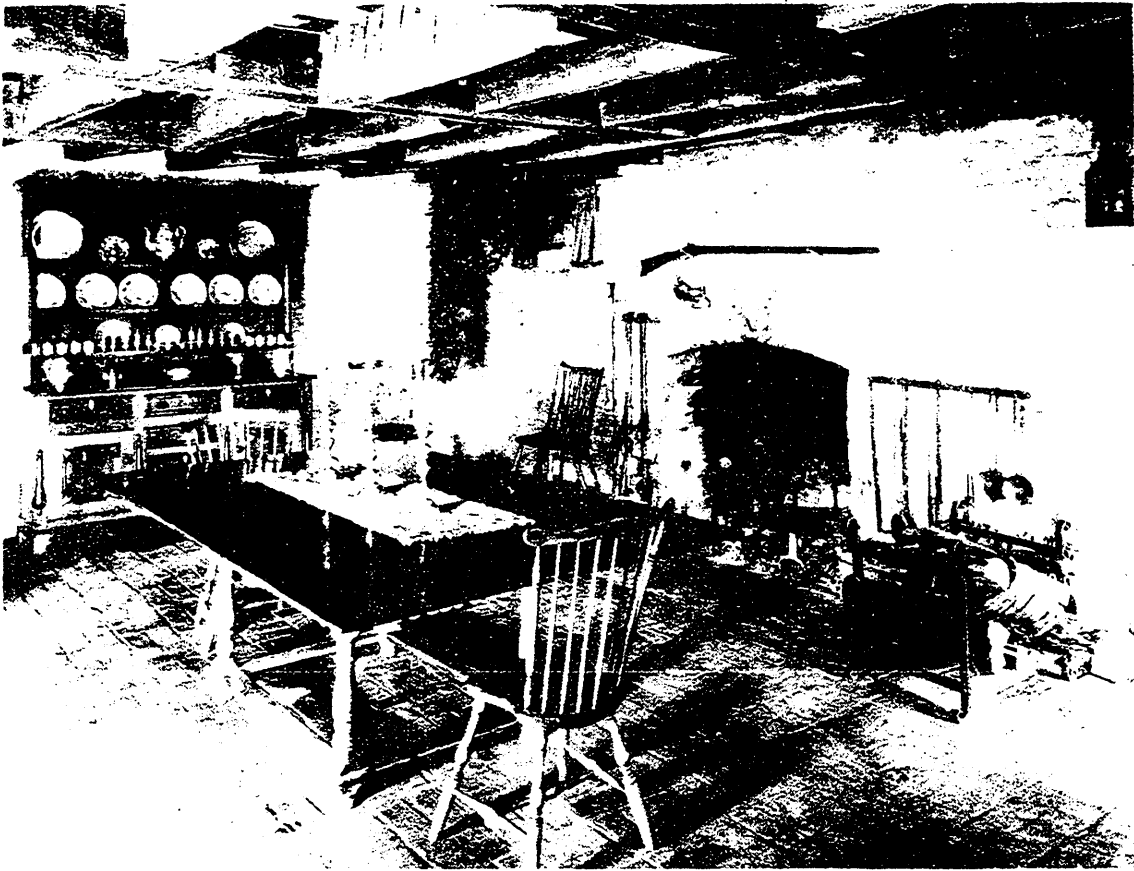


PROPOSED DANIEL BOONE SHRINE

(ASHEN-BRENNER PHOTOS)



THE JUDGEMENT TREE



TOP DINING ROOM OF BOONE HOUSE; BOTTOM, PARLOR

**Excerpts from the records of St. Charles County, Missouri,
showing ownership of the Nathan Boone house from the Spanish
Grant to the present time.**

*According to Vol. 3, page 335, American State Papers, United States
Survey No. 1794, containing 800 arpents or 680.50 acres, was confirmed
to Nathan Boone, under Robert Hall, Feb. 2, 1816.*

* * * *

Nathan Boone and Olive Boone, his wife,

to

Charles M. Johnson

*Book "L" page 71, grant, bargain and sell, dated Jan. 24, 1837, ackn. Jan.
24, 1837, filed Feb. 20, 1837.*

Consideration: \$6120-00

700½ acres.

* * * *

Charles M. Johnson and Harriette D. Johnson, his wife,

to

Ludwich Paul

*Book "T" no. 2, page 619, grant, bargain and sell, dated April 10,
1865, ackn. April 10, 1865, filed May 20, 1865.*

Consideration: \$20,000.

351.50 acres.

* * * *

Ludwig Paul and Elsabein Paul his wife,

to

Herman Henry Buenger

*Book 25, page 310, grant, bargain and sell, dated Nov. 14, 1878, ackn. Nov.
15, 1878, filed Feb. 11, 1879.*

*Consideration: \$1000.00 (and the grantee assuming the payment of the
decls of trust on the land conveyed) 200 acres of land more or less.*

* * * *

Hermann H. Buenger and Louise Buenger, his wife,

to

John F. Siefker and Gottlob Friedrich

*Book 52, page 125, grant, bargain and sell, dated Feb. 26, 1891, ackn. Feb.
26, 1891, filed Oct. 23, 1891.*

Consideration: \$5000.00.

200 acres more or less.

* * * *

Gottlob Friedrich and Cecelia L. Friedrich, his wife,

to

John F. Siefker

*Book 47, page 433, remise, release and quit-claim, dated Feb. 13, 1893,
ackn. Feb. 13, 1893 filed Feb. 16 1893.*

Consideration: \$2550.00

200 acres of land more or less.

* * * *

J. F. Siefker and Florentine Siefker his wife,

to

Arnold Siefker

Book 64, page 138, grant, bargain and sell, convey and confirm, dated Oct. 20, 1894, filed Oct. 23, 1894.

Consideration: \$4500.00

200 acres of land more or less.

** * * **

Arnold F. Siefker and Hilda Siefker, his wife,

to

Harry Bollman

Book 89, page 302, grant, bargain and sell, convey and confirm dated Nov. 9, 1904, filed Nov. 15, 1904.

Consideration: \$5100.00

200 acres of land more or less.

** * * **

Jennie C. Foristell and Murray E. Foristell, her husband

to

Francis M. Curlee and George M. Hagee

Book 149, page 632, grant, bargain and sell, convey and confirm, dated Oct. 19, 1925, ackn, Oct. 19, 1925, filed Oct. 27, 1925.

Consideration: \$100.00 and other good and valuable considerations

2.37 acres

** * * **

George M. Hagee and Marie Bacon Hagee his wife,

to

Francis M. Curlee

Book 148, page 153, remise, release, and quit-claim, dated Feb. 15, 1926, ackn. Feb. 15, 1926, filed July 10, 1926.

Consideration: \$100.00 and other good and valuable considerations.

2.37 acres

** * * **

Henry and Sophia Bollman, his wife,

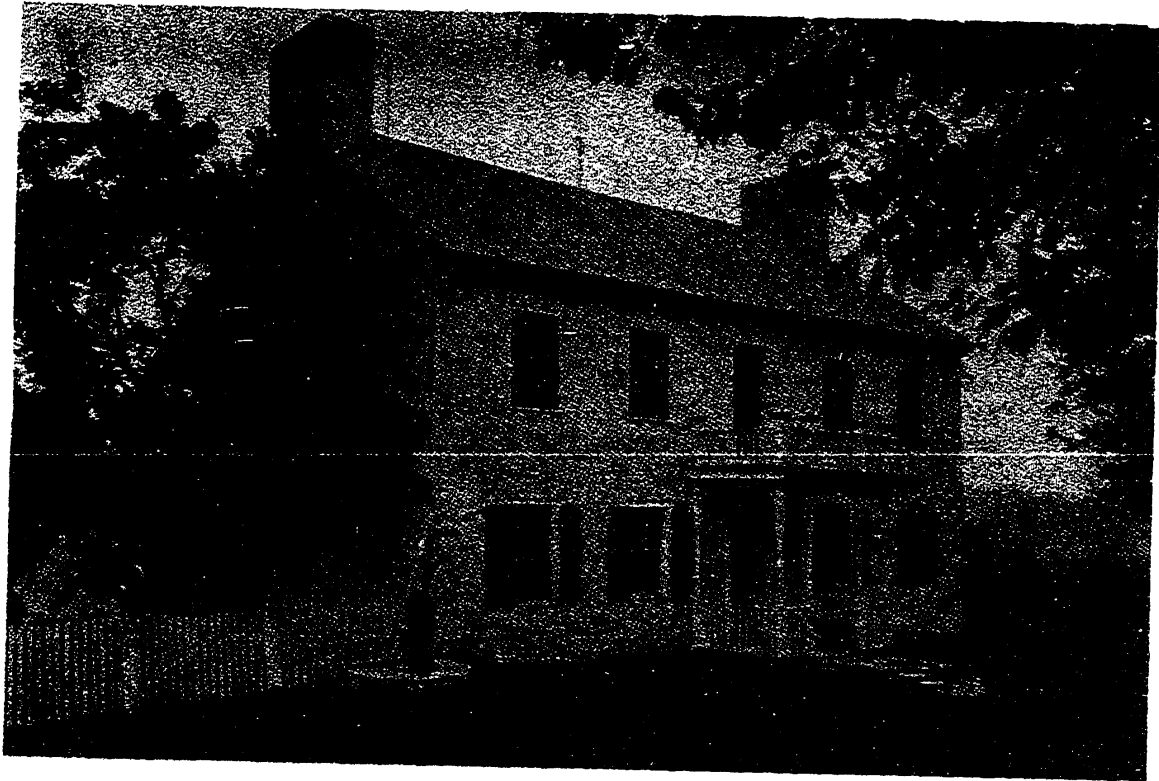
to

Francis M. Curlee

Book 148, page 154, remise, release, and forever quit-claim dated July 8, 1926, filed July 10, 1926.

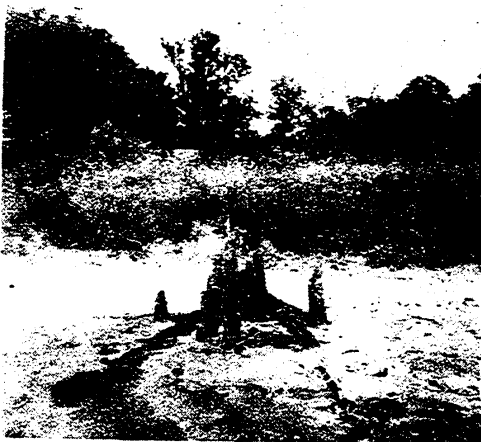
Consideration: \$10.00 and other and good and valuable consideration

2.37 acres



BOONE HOUSE IN 1925 BEFORE RESTORATION BY COL. CURLEE

FAMOUS SALT SPRINGS IN
HOWARD COUNTY, MISSOURI,
AS IT APPEARS TODAY



ANDY MASCHMEIER, CARETAKER
STANDS BESIDE JUDGMENT
TREE 16½ FEET IN GIRTH



Boon's Lick Region Of Missouri

The Boone house and its picturesque setting is the central attraction of the area once known as Boon's Lick, every hill and every valley of which resounded to the crack of the unerring rifle of the great hunter.

Threading through the region is the Boonslick trail, the wilderness route laid out by Boone from St. Charles to Howard county. At the western terminus of the trail are the salt springs discovered by Boone in 1804. The springs are located northwest of the small town of Boonesboro, on State Highway 87, on the Munday farm. The springs bubble up through wooden cribbing in a dry, sandy salt bed near a little creek. A rough and hilly road leads to the historic site, which was marked by the D. A. R. in 1913.

Boone blazed the trail to the salt springs soon after his arrival in Missouri. He did so to provide his family with two necessities—salt and meat. The deer came to lick the salt which crystalized at the edges of the spring, and Boone with his long rifle bagged the venison which provided fresh meat supplies.

Settlements sprang up along the trail immediately after it was laid out and the region became known as Boon's Lick. The amazing fertility of the soil led to a phenomenal spurt in population. The influx was largely from Kentucky and Tennessee, attracted by the transportation available to St. Louis on the Missouri river and because settlement was becoming safe from Indian attacks through the intervention of Boone.

The St. Louis Enquirer declared 120 wagons per week passed through St. Charles in nine or ten weeks during November, 1819, "with wealthy and respectable emigrants from various states whose united numbers are supposed to amount to 12,000." Of the 66,000 persons in the Missouri territory in 1820, the year of Boone's death, one-third lived in Boon's Lick, compared with only 500 persons four years earlier.

The entire Boone region of Missouri, including the stately stone house where he died, retains a remarkable resemblance to the period 150 years ago when the roving pioneer chose it as the place where he would finally settle. A historian, writing in 1885, described the area in these beautiful phrases:

"To the valley of the Femme Osage is attached special interest, for along this stream and over the hills which girdle it, were the haunts of the great hunter Boone, who came to the locality before the Indians took their departure, and who must have found a perfect fulfillment of his idea of rugged and natural wildness and solitude.

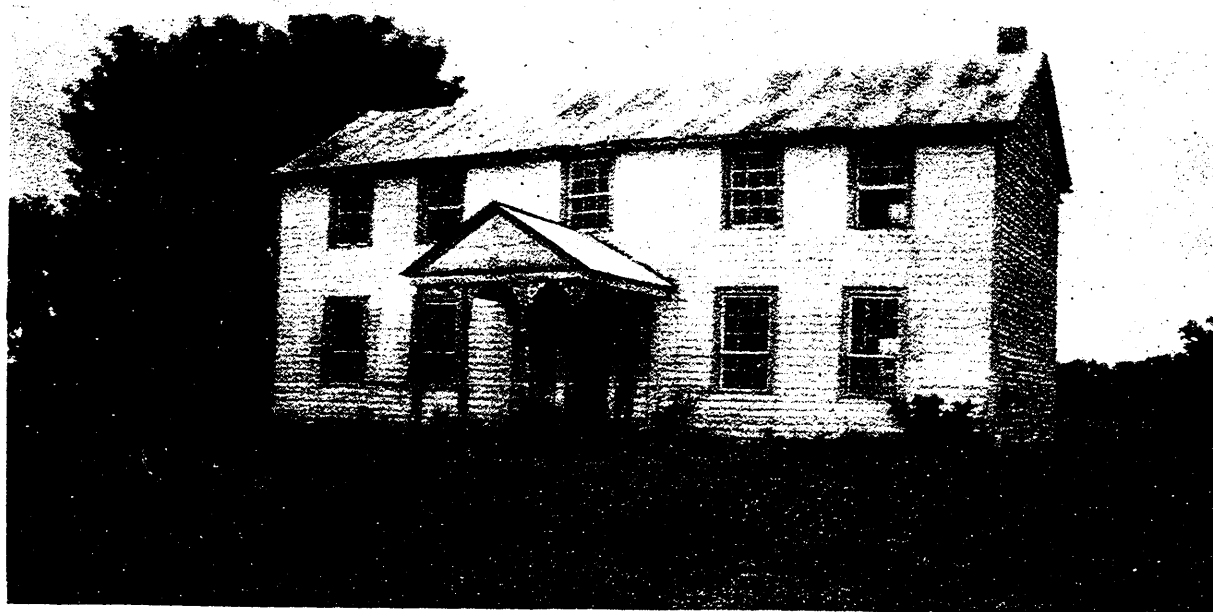
"The location of Femme Osage village is quite romantic. The small collection of houses nestled among the trees in the valley of the Femme Osage creek, surrounded by high wooded hills, gives to the place the appearance of some old Swiss village, and renders it especially attractive to the traveler who loves the wild and picturesque beauties of nature.

"The village of Femme Osage cannot become a large and thriving town, owing to its location, but the natural beauties surrounding it, and the interesting historical reminiscences of its earlier settlers, will ever attract and please the historian and antiquarian."

Other equally picturesque communities in the immediate area of the Boone house are Augusta and New Melle. Augusta, originally called Mount Pleasant, was laid out in 1836 by Leonard Harold, a Pennsylvania Dutchman, who settled there after service in the War of 1812. The community founded the first public school in St. Charles county and was a prominent wine producing center in the 1840-50 period, shipping large quantities "of a grade not excelled among the native wine growers of the country" to St. Louis and Chicago.

New Melle, about five miles west of the Boone house, was described in 1885 as "one of the most thriving villages in the county." The first settler, Ernest Bannerman, arrived in 1840 and the rich prairie soil attracted a class of "well-to-do" farmers. Another attribute was the high and dry location, which was considered healthful.

THE FLANDERS CALLAWAY HOUSE NEAR MARTHASVILLE,
WHERE REBECCA BOONE DIED, AS IT APPEARS TODAY





DAVID BRYAN HOUSE
WHICH ADJOINS THE
CEMETERY ON TEUQUE
CREEK WHERE DANIEL
AND REBECCA BOONE
WERE BURIED.

The old world atmosphere and culture continued down through the years, so that a metropolitan newspaper reporter, visiting the Boone house in 1933, later wrote:

"Whether he has affection for the great out-of-doors or not, the tourist can hardly fail to be moved, as the old hunter was, by the depth of the forest, the lush green of the valleys, and the sharp line of the hills that lie to the north of the Missouri river. He will find, too, buildings that are erected by the pioneers, some of them as fresh in their white limestone as on the day they were set up.

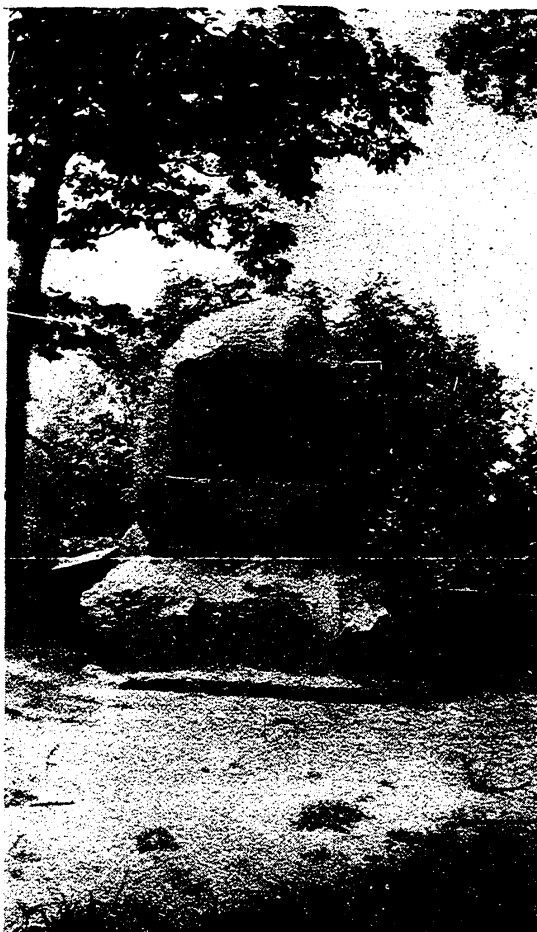
"There is no polluting smoke in the Femme Osage country, although, as the cool days approach, wood fires set up a soft blue haze that gives added beauty to the scene. In every direction there is landscape to grace a picture frame."

Still another big-city reporter found that condition existing when he accompanied a group of adults and children to the house in 1949.

"Camouflaged by the same dust swallowed by the pioneers on horse-back more than a century ago," he wrote, "the motorized caravan made its way over circuitous byways and trembling bridges to the remote spot in the fertile valley of Femme Osage creek, not far from Defiance, that is a veritable hotbed of Boone lore.

"And what a place it is. The painstaking job done over two decades to restore the sturdy homestead has been described before. But it's one thing to read about it and another to walk by the refurbished Judgment Tree and into the living room with its ceiling of rough walnut beams.

"The children with the party turned quiet and attentive without parental coaxing. It wasn't the enforced silence the cops-and-robbers set reserves for museums. In this place you didn't have to play Indians. If it hadn't been for the electric lights and the cars outside waiting to take you home, you might have passed a peace pipe around the room yourself."



MONUMENT AT BRYAN CEMETERY
WHERE BOONES WERE BURIED.
ERECTED IN 1915 BY D. A. R.

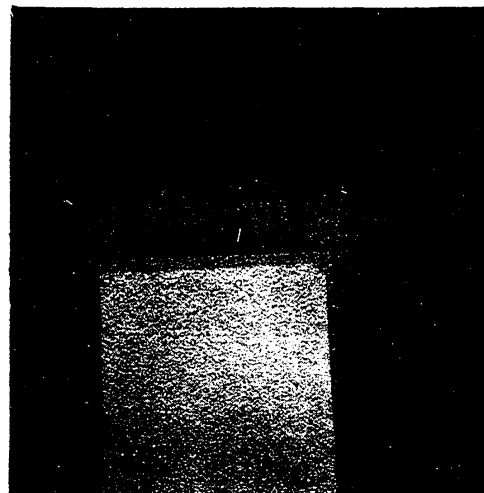
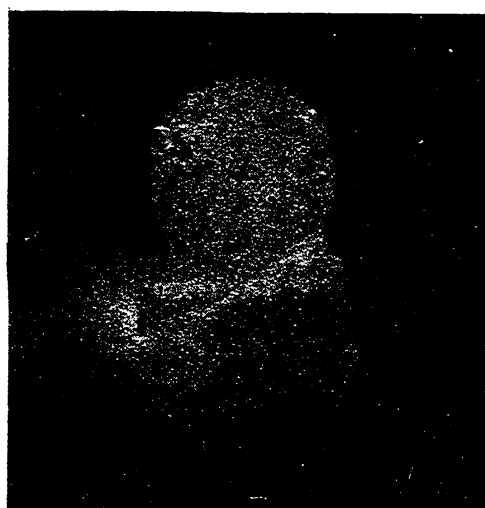


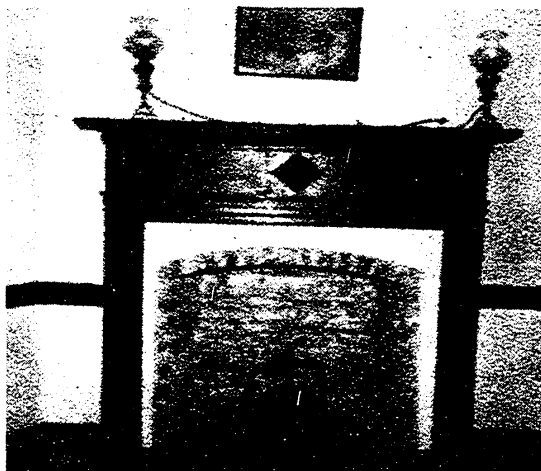
PHOTO OF ORIGINAL MARKER ON
THE DANIEL BOONE GRAVE

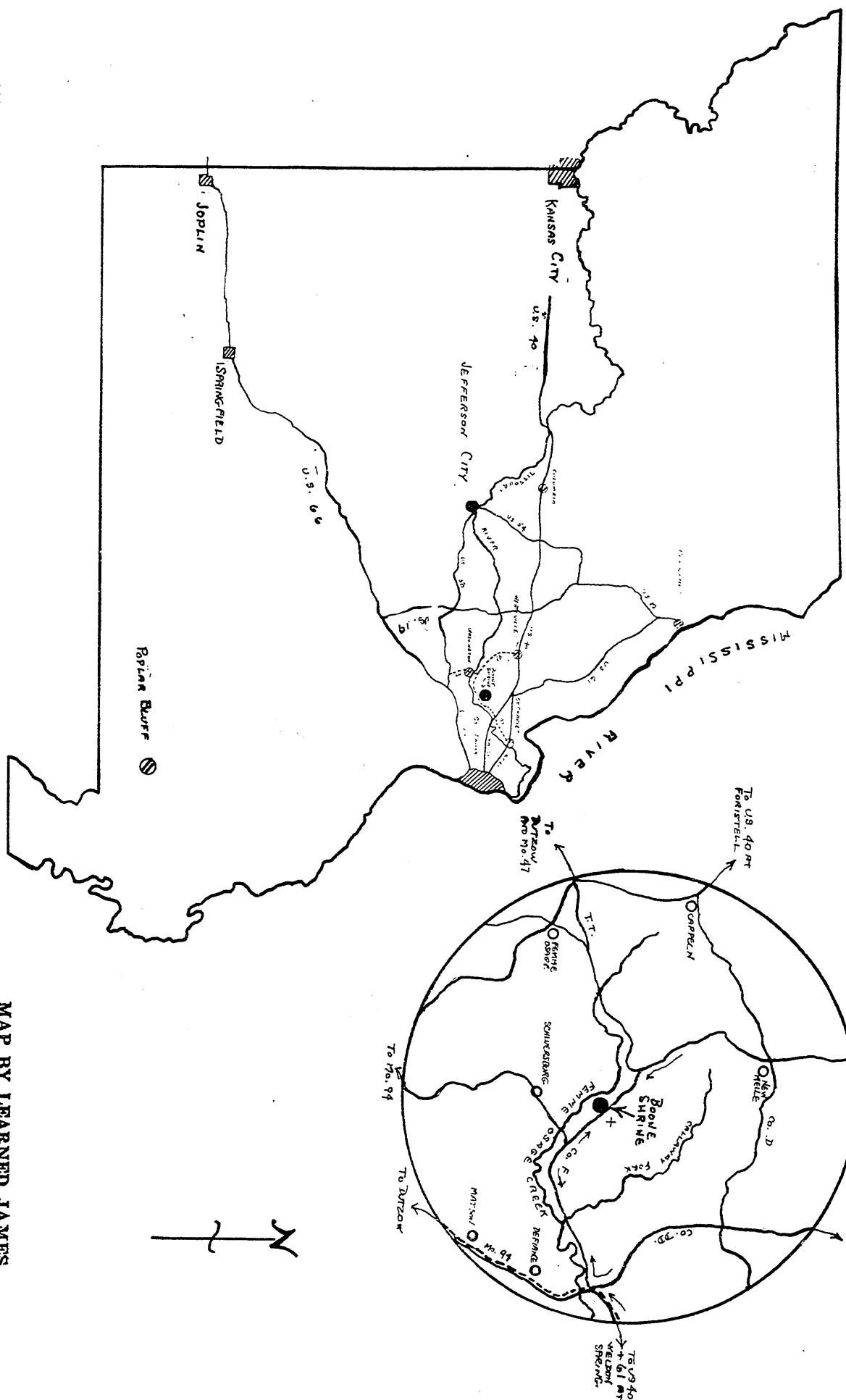


ORIGINAL MARKER FROM
REBECCA BOONE GRAVE.

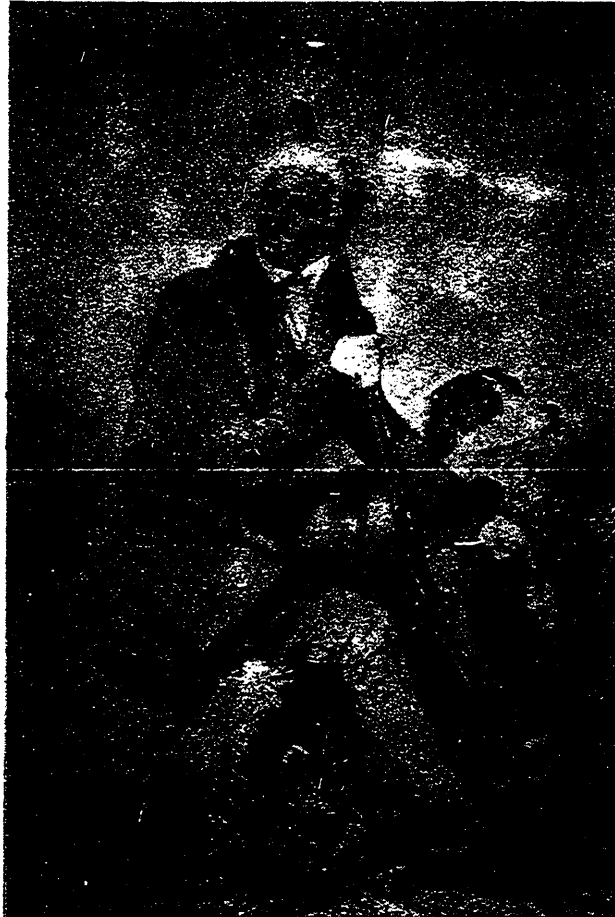
(MARKERS ARE PRESERVED
AT CENTRAL COLLEGE IN
FAYETTE, MISSOURI.)

ONE OF SEVEN MANTLES
IN BOONE HOUSE. CARVED
BY DANIEL BOONE





MAP BY LEARNED JAMES



DANIEL BOONE

SPECIAL THANKS FOR MATERIAL IN
THIS BOOKLET TO AUTHORS JOHN
BAKELESS AND STEWART EDWARD
WHITE; HISTORY OF ST. CHARLES
COUNTY; MR. AND MRS. A. RAY OLIVER;
MRS. EDNA OLSON; MRS. EUGENIA
JAMES AND EMMONS ABSTRACT CO.

A Covenant

The place where Daniel Boone died is a rugged old house, rearing its chimneys through the tall American elms and reflecting in every stone the spirit of independence put there by its frontiersman builder.

It has endured the winds and snows and the ravages of time for nearly a century and a half, while harboring inside its massive walls the woodworking artistry of the man who was more widely known as a trailblazer in the westward march of civilization.

Here Boone came in search of peace and tranquility in his declining years. In this wild and beautiful Femme Osage valley he sought to forget the hard years of toil and disillusionment he had encountered in far apart places in the still young America.

He hunted by day in adjacent valleys with his long rifle, worked in the evenings carving the mantelpieces, and relaxed at twilight, gazing into the misty bluffs and reliving his adventuresome past.

The day came when the roving spirit was stilled. The mighty elms drooped and the valley mourned. The great house sheltered his mortal remains until they were borne to the next valley and gently lowered into the Missouri soil where Boone requested.

Thus it came to pass that his adopted State stood passively by and permitted Boone's bones to be dug up and removed to another State, in total disregard of his often repeated desire to remain forever in his chosen valley.

Again the Valley of the Femme Osage mourned, helpless to interfere. But it stood by its tryst with the spirit of the frontiersman. The elms murmured in the winter wind and grew huge with age. The meadows and the

hillsides nurtured their old world atmosphere and the great house mellowed with the decades, all intact as Boone had known them.

Man did not profit from this phenomenon of Nature. The years rolled by and the inattention that had marked Boone's deeds in his lifetime continued unabated. Occasionally there rose up an individual or an organization who attempted to save his relics. But without exception their efforts ended in failure, for want of the initiative to see them through.

Not a single public agency in Boone's adopted state of Missouri has made a determined effort to preserve his priceless deathplace. No legislator has risen to plead Boone's cause in the state where a Senator became famous because of a tribute to a dog. Though historians concede that the house where Boone died is the most valuable remaining relic of his life, they have not shown the public the way to accomplish its preservation.

Only the Valley of the Femme Osage and the great house and the majestic elms have kept faith. Serenely and without complaint they continue their march through the ages, gazing with disdain on the passing generations while jealously guarding their charge.

St. Charles and St. Louis were infant cities when the last stone was placed in the Boone house near Defiance in 1812. The cities have thrived and populations have grown in the decades since that date, but only the seasons have changed in the placid countryside surrounding Boone's home 25 miles west of St. Charles. When man has refused to do to preserve this treasured bit of Americana, Nature has managed to contrive unaided by reason of a silent compact made the night in 1820 that Daniel Boone died.